In the Claims

1-12 (canceled).

13 (new). A method of treating autoimmune and/or inflammatory diseases and/or bacterial and viral infections comprising orally administering a RANTES polypeptide having at least 90% homology with the wild-type molecule, said polypeptide comprising at least one non-conservative mutation in the 40's dibasic site at residues 44-47 and having a reduced GAG-binding activity.

14 (new). The method according to claim 13, wherein the polypeptide has three or more amino acid substitutions, said substitutions including positions 44, 45, and 47 of the RANTES polypeptide.

15 (new). The method according to claim 13, wherein said polypeptide comprises SEQ ID NO: 1.

16 (new). The method according to claim 14, wherein said polypeptide comprises SEQ ID NO: 1.

17 (new). A method of antagonizing the activity of RANTES comprising orally administering a RANTES polypeptide having at least 90% homology with the wild-type molecule, said polypeptide comprising at least one non-conservative mutation in the 40's dibasic site at residues 44-47 and having a reduced GAG-binding activity.

18 (new). The method according to claim 17, wherein the polypeptide has three or more amino acid substitutions, said substitutions including positions 44, 45, and 47 of the RANTES polypeptide.

19 (new). The method according to claim 17, wherein said polypeptide comprises SEQ ID NO: 1.

20 (new). The method according to claim 18, wherein said polypeptide comprises SEQ ID NO: 1.